

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-07 TRSE-00 OMB-01 /079 W
-----211730Z 025773 /47

R 211611Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6661
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 04949

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, GW, CY
SUBJECT: GERMAN THINKING ON CYPRUS AND AEGEAN

REF: STATE 58444

SUMMARY: FRG AGREES THAT WEST SHOULD DEFER INITIATIVES
UNTIL AFTER VIENNA TALKS, BUT WANTS TO CONSULT ON
GUARANTOR AND TERRITORIAL QUESTIONS. GENSCHER IS NOT
HAPPY ABOUT BRANDT'S INTEREST IN CYPRUS. END SUMMARY.

1. EMBASSY APPRECIATES REPORT OF BRANDT'S AND EHMKE'S
DISCUSSION IN WASHINGTON ON CYPRUS. WE USED PARA 5 TO
BRIEF THE FONOFF (BENSCH) ON OUR POLICY.

2. BENSCH AGREED THAT WEST SHOULD WAIT FOR RESULTS OF
VIENNA TALKS BEFORE UNDERTAKING ANY INITIATIVE. HE
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URGED, HOWEVER, THAT WEST USE THIS TIME TO CONSULT AND
PREPARE SOME KIND OF GUARANTOR PLAN. (THE FRG'S
THOUGHTS ON GUARANTORS WERE REPORTED IN BONN 3293.)
BENSCH CLAIMED THAT THE FRENCH AND GERMANS, WHO ARE
CONTINUING THEIR BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS ON CYPRUS, ARE
AGREED THAT THE BRITISH HAVE TO BE PUSHED TO ASSUME
THEIR RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE ISLAND. NEITHER HAS

ACTUALLY APPROACHED THE BRITISH, HOWEVER.

3. BENSCH ALSO REVEALED THAT THE FRG HAS ENGAGED IN AN EXTENSIVE SERIES OF CONSULTATIONS WITH ANKARA (THROUGH THE TURKISH EMBASSY IN BONN) ON TERRITORY QUESTIONS. AS A RESULT OF THESE CONSULTATIONS, BENSCH IS SATISFIED THAT THE ONLY OPEN TERRITORIAL QUESTION IS THE TOWN OF MORPHOU. WHILE NOTHING IS AGREED, BENSCH CLAIMS THAT THE GREEK AND TURKISH CYPRIOTS KNOW AND INDEPENDENTLY ACKNOWLEDGE WHERE THE LINE WILL BE DRAWN EAST OF NICOSIA AND THAT THE TERRITORY AROUND LEFKA WILL BE RETURNED TO THE GREEK CYPRIOTS. HOWEVER, THE GREEKS ARE INSISTING ON THE RETURN OF MORPHOU, WHILE THE TURKS ARE BECOMING MORE CONVINCED THAT THEY SHOULD HOLD ON TO THE TOWN AND RETURN JUST THE TERRITORY TO THE SOUTH. BENSCH CLAIMS THAT THE TURKS HAVE AGREED WITH THE FRG THAT THEIR SHARE OF THE LAND MUST FALL BELOW 30 PERCENT. IF THEY RETURN MORPHOU, THEY WILL HAVE 27-28 PERCENT; IF THEY GIVE IT AND THE ADJOINING LAND TO THE NORTH BACK, THEIR SHARE WILL FALL TO 25 PERCENT. BENSCH POINTS TO THE GOOD RELATIONS BETWEEN THE FRG AND TURKEY AND THESE ONGOING TERRITORIAL DISCUSSIONS AS AN OPPORTUNITY TO INTERJECT U.S. IDEAS ON THE TERRITORIAL QUESTION. HE URGES U.S./FRG CONSULTATIONS ON THIS POINT.

4. ACCORDING TO BENSCH, THE FRG CONTINUES TO BELIEVE THAT AN UPDATED VERSION OF THE TURKISH PAPER ON CONSTITUTION CAN SERVE AS A STARTING POINT FOR DISCUSSIONS.

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SIONS.

5. BENSCH BELIEVES THERE ARE TWO REASONS BEHIND TURKEY'S MORE ASSERTIVE ACTIONS ON THE AEGEAN:

- THE UPCOMING TURKISH ELECTIONS, WHICH FORCE NATIONALISTIC POSTURING.
- TURKISH RESENTMENT OVER THE CLIFFORD MISSION, SPECIFICALLY GREEK VIEWS ON THE AEGEAN AS RELAYED BY CLIFFORD. BENSCH CLAIMS THE TURKS ARE CONVINCED THAT THE GREEKS WANT TO USE TENSION OVER THE AEGEAN TO MAINTAIN AN EMBARGO ON U.S. MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO TURKEY AND ARE BASING THEIR PRESENT ACTIONS ON THIS BELIEF.

6. OTHER POINTS OF INTEREST:

THE FRG HAS CARRIED OUT ITS OWN RESEARCH IN THE

AEGEAN AND HAS CONCLUDED THAT THERE ARE NO OIL

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 BONN 04949

RESERVES WHICH ARE ECONOMICALLY EXPLOITABLE. IT
HAS PASSED THIS CONCLUSION ON TO DEMIREL, WHO
AGREES.

-- MAKARIOS HAD NOT CONSULTED ATHENS BEFORE ASSUMING
HIS RECENT MORE REASONABLE STANCE, AN ACTION WHICH
MARKS A DETERIORATION IN ATHENS-NICOSIA RELATIONS.
THIS CONCLUSION WAS CONFIRMED BY CYPRIOT DIRECTOR
GENERAL PELAGHIAS DURING A RECENT VISIT TO BONN,
AN UNUSUAL DIVERGENCE IN GREEK AND CYPRIOT
POSITIONS RECENTLY IN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZA-
TIONS, AND BY FONMIN BITSIOS TO THE FRENCH, WHO
HAVE INFORMED THE GERMANS CONFIDENTIALLY.

-- FONMIN GENSCHER IS FURIOUS AT BRANDT FOR HIS AND
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EHMKE'S INTERVENTIONS ON CYPRUS. THE FRG EMBASSY IN NICOSIA HAD LINKED BRANDT'S CONVERSATIONS IN WASHINGTON WITH MAKARIOS' REPORTED INVITATION TO BRANDT IN REPORTING CONCERNING THE INVITATION. GENSCHER BELIEVES THAT THE SPD CAN PLAY A USEFUL ROLE IN PORTUGAL, WHERE IT HAS STRONG PARTY TIES, BUT NOT IN CYPRUS WHERE IT HAS NONE, OR ANKARA AND ATHENS WHERE ITS TIES ARE WITH THE OPPOSITION. WE DREW ON REFTEL TO ASSURE BENSCH THAT WE HAD NOT ENCOURAGED BRANDT TO UNDERTAKE ANY CYPRUS MISSION.

7. ACTION REQUESTED: REPLIES TO BENSCH ON:

-- GUARANTOR QUESTION: THE FRENCH AND GERMANS ARE APPARENTLY ACTIVELY DISCUSSING THIS QUESTION. DO WE WANT TO ENCOURAGE OR DISCOURAGE THEIR INTEREST?

-- TERRITORY: IS THERE ANYTHING WE CAN SAY TO THE FONOFF ABOUT OUR UNDERSTANDING OF THE STATUS OF TERRITORIAL QUESTIONS?
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, AEGEAN, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 21-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BONN04949
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770096-0647
Format: TEL
From: BONN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770341/aaaabivg.tel
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Litigation History:
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Message ID: 65855cb5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 58444
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3053235
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GERMAN THINKING ON CYPRUS AND AEGEAN
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, GE, CY, US, AU
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/65855cb5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009